

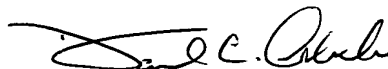
REMARKS

The foregoing amendments to Claims 1, 2, 8 and 12 address the Examiner's concerns regarding consistency of language and apparatus phraseology with respect to the requirements of 35 USC § 112. Accordingly, the objections raised under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, should now be cured. The Examiner indicated that Claim 13 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections raised under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, "since the prior art of record does not disclose or adequately teach control valves for individually controlling the quantity of gas passing through the respective plurality of peripheral gas inlet jets, and the prior art is further silent as to the apparatus being in fluid communication with a fluidizing chlorine gas supply". The subject matter of Claim 13 has been integrated into Claim 1 and Claim 13 has been cancelled. Accordingly, Claim 1 now complies with the requirements the Examiner has set in paragraph 2 of the Office Action under the heading "Allowable Subject Matter". The remaining claims are either directly or indirectly dependent upon Claim 1 and therefore should be similarly allowable. Accordingly, Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 12 and 14-21 patentably distinguish over the references for the foregoing reasons.

While it is believed that no fees should be incurred as a result of the current amendment, should any fees be due, authorization is hereby given to charge any deficiencies in payment to Eckert Seamans Deposit Account No. 02-2556.

Accordingly reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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